

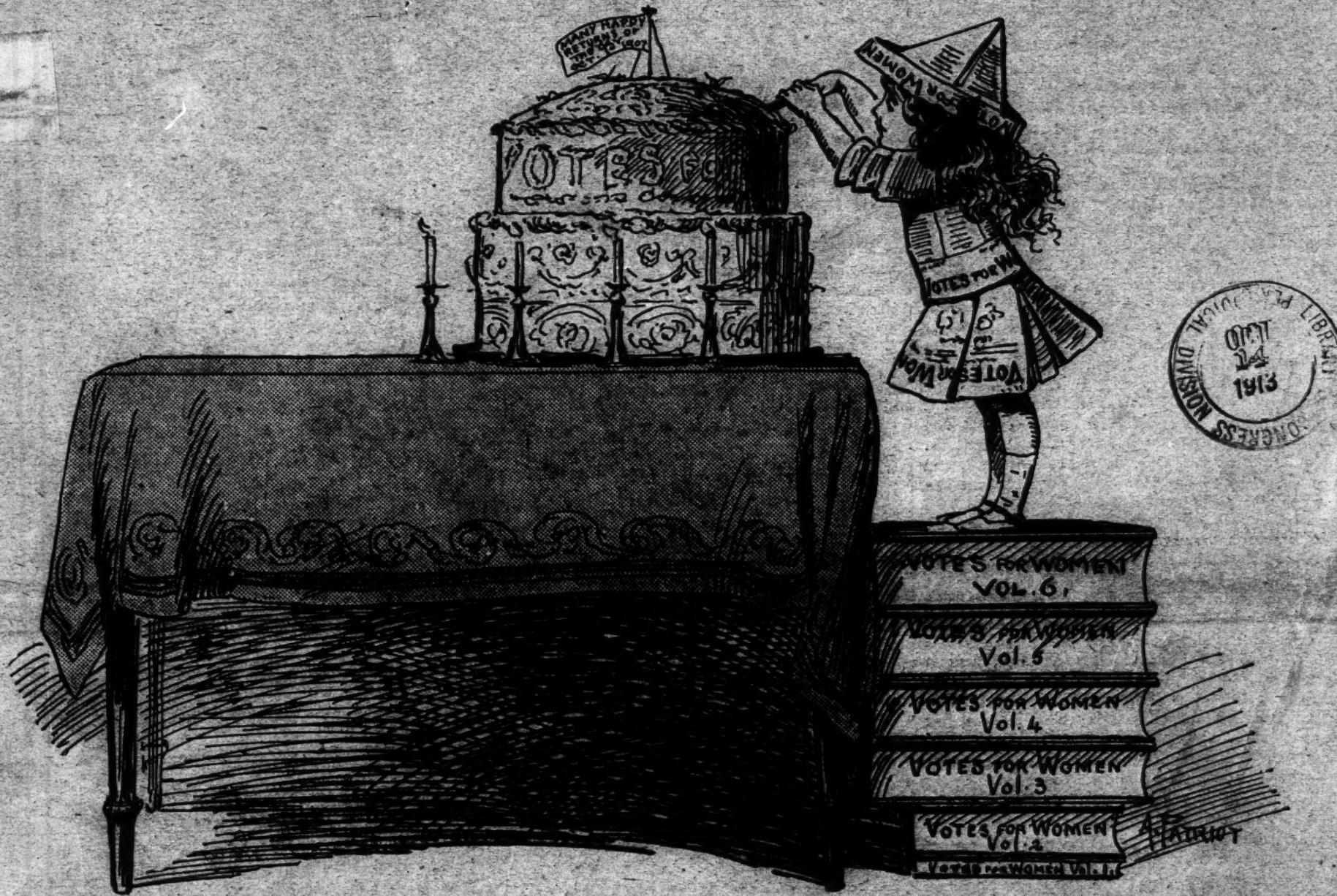
# VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE

VOL. VII. (New Series), No. 291.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1913.

Price 1d. Weekly (<sup>Post Free</sup>)



## SIX YEARS OLD TO-DAY!

### CONTENTS

	PAGE
Our Cartoon .....	1
The Outlook .....	1
"The Kingdom of God and the Sexes" .....	1
Votes for WOMEN Fellowship .....	2
Suffragist Sketches .....	5
New Policy for a General Election .....	6
A Working Woman's Life, "Not Fine Enough." By H. W. N. ....	7
Women in Trades and Professions .....	9
The Cat and Mouse Act Again .....	9
The Movement in Denmark .....	10
Liberal Women and Liberal Candidates .....	10
The Housing Problem .....	10
Comparison of Punishments .....	10
General News .....	11

### DEDICATION

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom; to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it; to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

### THE OUTLOOK

We have pleasure in announcing to our readers that this paper, *Votes for Women*, attained its sixth birthday yesterday, and starts to-day with the present issue its seventh volume and the seventh year of its existence.

#### Early Days

It is interesting to look back over the last six years and note the astounding advance which the question has made during this time, an advance to which this paper has in no small measure contributed. When, in October, 1907, the present editors formed the project of creating the paper, the modern suffrage movement was in its infancy. The older suffrage society comprised only a few hundred, or, at the most, a few thousand members, scattered in different parts of the country. The

newer, militant, organisation had only been in effective existence for about eighteen months. So small was the demand for suffrage news that a monthly issue of twelve small pages, printed in large type, with a circulation of 2,000 copies, was deemed sufficient for the purpose.

#### Mr. Asquith's Promise

At the end of six months, extension in various directions had become necessary. Events were happening in the suffrage movement which needed a more frequent chronicle than could be covered by a monthly paper, and the number of regular readers was rising rapidly. In May, 1908, it was decided to publish weekly, to print not less than 6,000 copies, and to reduce the price from threepence to a penny. It may be remembered that towards the end of that month Mr. Asquith made the first statement of his promise with regard to the Electoral Reform Bill, and that in June of that year took place the great procession of constitutional suffragists and the monster Hyde Park demonstration of the militants, followed by a deputation and many arrests and imprisonments.

#### A Change of Proprietorship

At the end of another nine months, during which there had been a further considerable increase in circulation, a change in the proprietorship of the paper was brought about. Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who had founded the paper and supported it in its early struggling days, offered to hand it over to the W.S.P.U., while still retaining their position as editors. The offer was gladly accepted, and from that date the paper became the official organ of the W.S.P.U. In October, 1909, a further increase to its present size and shape took place. The year that followed witnessed the first heroic struggle between women, who carried the policy of passive resistance to the supreme limit of the human spirit, and the

cruelty of forcible feeding, culminating in the exposure of Mr. Herbert Gladstone by Lady Constance Lytton.

#### The Conciliation Bill

The years 1910 and 1911 were the years of truce, in which all the suffrage societies united to press forward the compromise known as the Conciliation Bill. The only interruption was the great protest demonstration in November, 1910, when, at the close of the short parliament of that year, the W.S.P.U. sought for the thirteenth time to obtain an interview with the Prime Minister, and were repulsed with exceptional violence and brutality by the police, so that many women were seriously injured. Other features of these years were the imposing processions of women which marched through the streets of London, surpassing in numbers and dignity all previous processions of men and women on behalf of any other reform. Finally, in June, the Government gave a promise of facilities for the Bill in the following session, which was accepted by all suffragists as satisfactory.

#### Arrest of the Editors

The hopes of a settlement by consent were, however, rudely shattered by the manoeuvres of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, who, in November, 1911, announced the introduction of the Manhood Suffrage Bill, coupling with it the impossible promise of neutrality on a woman suffrage amendment. This announcement created a new situation, in which the pledge for the Conciliation Bill became of no value, and the W.S.P.U. decided at once upon a demonstration which should unmistakably mark their disapproval of the trick which had been played on them. In November, 1911, and again in March, 1912, a large body of women came out into the streets around Westminster and a great many of them, for the first time, deliberately broke shop windows in

many of the principal streets. Several hundred women were arrested and imprisoned, and the editors of this paper were also charged in conjunction with Mrs. Pankhurst with conspiracy on account of the part which the paper had played in the demonstration. They were sentenced to nine months' imprisonment. They were released at the end of June, after carrying on a hunger strike and being forcibly fed until their health gave way.

#### "Votes For Women" an Independent Paper

In October, 1912, a serious difference of opinion occurred between the leaders of the W.S.P.U. During the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence in Canada, Mrs. Pankhurst had determined on a grave new departure in militant methods, and on their return they found that she was not prepared to discuss the matter with them, but insisted on their severing all connection with the W.S.P.U. As the alternative to taking this course was to make a public exhibition of differences, they reluctantly decided to fall in with her suggestion. VOTES FOR WOMEN accordingly reverted to the control of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, who from that time onwards became personally responsible for raising the funds for its upkeep. It is now a paper independent of all suffrage societies; but a group of men and women have formed themselves into the VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship with a view to working in co-operation for the extension of the circulation and influence of the paper.

#### The Sixth Volume

The year covered by the sixth volume (which is being bound up in the colours, and will shortly be ready) has contained many events of special importance. In November, Mr. George Lansbury resigned his seat in Parliament and recontested the constituency of Bow, polling 3,291 votes, in spite of the opposition of all political parties. In January, the Speaker ruled the woman suffrage amendment to the Reform Bill out of order, thus completely justifying the forecast in this paper. Mr. Asquith thereupon substituted a new and worthless promise for the pledge which he had failed to keep. In view of this the N.U.W.S.S. decided to change its by-election policy. The W.S.P.U. blew up Mr. Lloyd George's house at Walton Heath, and commenced a guerilla warfare on Society, consisting of destruction of property. The Government retaliated by arresting Mrs. Pankhurst, raiding the headquarters of the W.S.P.U., attempting to suppress the official organ of the Union, and by passing and putting into operation the Cat and Mouse Act. In May, the Dickinson Bill was defeated in the House of Commons. In July, a joint conference of all suffrage societies was held at the Caxton Hall to protest against the Cat and Mouse Act, and a deputation was appointed, including Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, to wait on the Government. The refusal of Mr. McKenna to see the deputation led to her arrest and that of Lady Sybil Smith and Miss Evelyn Sharp.

#### Effect upon Public Opinion

Apart from its direct work as a woman suffrage paper, VOTES FOR WOMEN has always regarded itself as an educator of the public upon all questions concerning women. In particular, the article by one of the editors entitled, "Does a man support his wife?" changed the whole outlook of economic thought upon the financial relationship of working-class husbands and wives. Its attack upon the Insurance Act, so far as the provisions relating to women are concerned, have led many of the public to recognise the grave injustice of the measure, and have been, in part, responsible for the slight improvements which have already taken place. It is now engaged upon enlightening people upon the inequality of treatment of men and women in the criminal courts.

#### The Political Outlook To-day

It is still impossible to predict what will be the outcome in the political world of the alarms and excursions relating to Ireland. Each day the situation changes; at one time it seems as though a compromise would be effected, at another opinion on both sides hardens towards fighting it out, at another the only possible solution appears to be an early general election. It is the business of woman suffragists to be prepared for each of these alternatives, and for this reason we have devoted our leading article this week to a discussion of the policy which ought to be followed in case a general election is sprung upon the country at short notice. We commend this to the careful attention of our readers.

#### In the Constituencies

Apart from the main decision as to policy suffragists have an important task to perform in the constituencies in getting together a body of electors who are prepared to put the question of the enfranchisement of women in the forefront of their political creed. A hundred men in each constituency pledged to use their votes in order to compel the Government to grant votes to women would represent a force which few party leaders would dare to disregard. This work, which is specially recommended to VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellows in an article by one of the Editors this week, can be begun at once by all suffragists, and will be of the greatest importance, however long the general election is postponed.

#### The Church Congress

Owing to the enlightened presidency of the Bishop

of Winchester, the Church Congress devoted the whole of Wednesday's sessions to the attitude of the Church to the pressing problem of the position of women. Bishop Welldon, in opening the discussion, declared emphatically that the teaching of history proved conclusively that the custody of women's interests was not safe in men's hands, and that the laws regulating the relations of the sexes, both in the sphere of politics and morals, were strikingly unequal. On the opposite page of this issue will be found a full report of the proceedings, which we have had specially telegraphed to us for the benefit of our readers.

#### A Tax on Bachelors

In the new American law of income-tax, which has just been passed by Congress, a distinction is made between bachelors whose incomes are only exempt up to £600 and married men who are exempt up to £900. The *Daily Telegraph*, in commenting upon this, draws attention to the severe burdens in this country which fall upon those who have families to support, and recommends an extension of the principle of giving rebates on income-tax for each child living at home. Our own view is that the first step in the right direction would be the removal of the present special taxes on marriage. As we pointed out in our issue of September 12, a married couple are, under our present law, subject to higher taxation than a father and son living together, a brother and sister, or even a man and woman who have children, but are not legally married. No legitimate defence of this marriage tax can be brought forward.

#### A True Story

We print on page 7 a human narrative of a working woman's life. The writer is well known to the editors of this paper, and her life story is printed exactly as she wrote it, with the exception of a few omissions which have been made for the sake of brevity. Our readers will recognise in this case, typical of hundreds of thousands of others, their countrywomen, one more proof that the world in which women are serenely sheltered by men from the rough and tumble of life, exists only in anti-suffrage imagination, and has no connection whatever with the facts of twentieth century Europe.

#### The Penalty of Supporting Woman Suffrage

A little while ago James Connolly, a labour leader in Dublin, was arrested for an inflammatory speech, and called upon to give sureties to keep the peace. He refused, and was sent to prison. He commenced the hunger strike, and after seven days was released unconditionally. During the whole time he was treated as a political prisoner. We contrast this case with that of George Lansbury, who was a surety prisoner on account of a speech on woman suffrage, and who adopted the hunger strike in prison; in his case political treatment was refused, and the final release was made under the Cat and Mouse Act.

#### Items of Interest

Sir Almroth Wright, not content with his egregious letter upon women, published eighteen months ago, has now written a whole book entitled, "The Un-expurgated Case Against Woman Suffrage." We propose to devote a special article to it in our next issue by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

In an article on the Irish question, the *Nation* speaks of the position of Irishmen and Irish-women under the Home Rule Bill, and remarks that they will have the vote, and be represented in the Parliament sitting in Dublin. This is certainly news to us. Will the *Nation* further enlighten us, as there is at present no provision for woman suffrage in the Bill?

Mrs. Harvey, who was sentenced to the disgracefully long term of two months' imprisonment for her tax resistance protest against the application of the Insurance Act to voiceless women, was released last Tuesday, her fine having been paid against her wish. During her imprisonment political treatment was refused, and though ill she was not allowed medical attention from her own homeopathic physician.

Interesting news about the Suffrage situation in Denmark will be found on page 10 of this issue.

#### ARREST OF W.S.P.U. OFFICIALS

As we go to press we learn that, in the absence of the leaders of the W.S.P.U., Miss Kerr, the business manager, and Mrs. Sanders, the financial secretary, were rearrested under the Cat and Mouse Act on returning to the headquarters of the Union on Wednesday. An attempt at rescue was made, and after a scene in the street four women were also arrested, taken to Bow Street, and sentenced to 40s. or a month.

As the whereabouts of Miss Kerr and Mrs. Sanders had been known for some time past and no attempt to arrest them had been made, it is clear that the present step has been taken owing to their return to their purely administrative duties. In view of the fact that the W.S.P.U. has not been held to be an illegal society, this action by the authorities constitutes a gross form of political intimidation. Such arbitrary procedure on behalf of the Home Office was anticipated by this paper when the wide optional powers conferred by the Cat and Mouse Bill were under discussion, and formed one of the grounds on which we opposed the measure.

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# "THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THE SEXES"

Discussion at the Church Congress on the Woman's Movement

The meeting of the Church Congress at Southampton in the year 1913 will be remembered for its recognition of the woman's share in the spiritual and the social life of the nation. When, last June, Lord Curzon wrote to the Bishop of Winchester, urging that a discussion on "The Kingdom of God and the Sexes" would make the Congress the arena of controversial and secular issues, Dr. Talbot, who is President of this year's Congress, replied with great wisdom that if the subject touched a burning controversy, this increased rather than diminished the need for its discussion. In this spirit the programme of the Congress has been planned and carried out.

Last Sunday, when special services were held in most of the Southampton churches, the woman's movement formed the subject of more than one sermon. The Bishop of Southampton preached on the spiritual side of it, but spoke also of the practical service of women in local government; and the Dean of Durham took as his text, "They marvelled that He was speaking with a woman," and argued that it was Christ Who first recognised the equality of the sexes.

#### The Semi-official Meetings

Before the Presidential opening of the Congress on Tuesday, the woman's question was thus well to the fore. It gave animation and interest to the semi-official women's meeting held on Monday afternoon, presided over by the Bishop of Winchester, and it was again under discussion at the men's meeting in the evening, when Miss Maude Royden spoke with great frankness and directness on purity and the White Slave Traffic. She also spoke at the afternoon meeting, rather more on the spiritual aspect of the question. Mrs. Sumner's paper on the home and the effects of divorce was reactionary, and therefore uninspiring to the more emancipated among her listeners; the Bishop, in his opening address, set a broader tone, saying that the higher nations were those that understood best the value of their women, and he saw no reason why the newer activities of women should exclude their older responsibilities in the home, since both were directed against the teaching of frivolous and selfish lives. At an Anti-Suffrage meeting held in the town on Tuesday, Dean Hensley Henson and Mr. Arnold Ward, M.P., were greatly heckled on their hostile attitude towards the suffragists' insistence upon the spiritual side of the woman's movement.

But of course the main interest of this year's Congress centred in Wednesday's great discussion, of which we are able to give a full report.

#### WEDNESDAY'S MEETING

By Special Telegram

Southampton, October 1, 1913.

This morning the Congress Hall was literally packed, a large proportion of the audience being women. In opening the session the President, the Bishop of Winchester, said that no subject could be more momentous, sacred, or delicate than that about to be discussed; none demanded a more quiet and reverent temper, and none called for more mutual counsel and help.

#### BISHOP WELLDON'S ADDRESS

The Dean of Manchester (Bishop Welldon, formerly Headmaster of Harrow), in opening the discussion, said that it was a strange sad fortune that had placed him in the position of reading the first paper at a meeting where such a weight of solemn responsibility was laid upon all who took part in it, for the subject of debate necessarily touched the relation of the sexes, and that was a subject which it were better not to discuss at all in a Church Congress, if it could not be discussed with freedom, dignity, and reverence. The duty which now was his would

in happier circumstances have been assigned to the dear friend whom he knew so long and well, and loved so much ever since they were boys at Eton together—Alfred Lyttelton. Was it not a pathetic thought that it was of him who had been invited to read a paper upon the ideal of manhood that the Prime Minister once said that he was himself the man who of all men of this generation came nearest to the ideal of manhood?

#### The Ideal Man

The ideal man, continued Bishop Welldon, would be more a student than an athlete. The worship of mere physical strength was in itself not an elevating but a brutalizing sentiment; it was more than doubtful, he thought, whether prizes were worth winning in international Olympic sports if they could be only won by an ever-increasing expenditure of money. In the progress of history the body came ever to count less and the mind to count more; the very battles of to-day were won not by vigour, or even courage, but by science. It were well that the masters of English boys, and perhaps of English girls, should inculcate a little less the worship of athletics and a little more the respect for intellect and learning. Science was essentially non-moral, and that was the reason why all wise thinkers had felt that education, if it was to be a blessing and not a peril, must be religious. If he were to begin life as a schoolmaster again he thought he would try to impress upon his pupils more forcibly the sovereign law of duty. Duty had been the inspiring motive of the lives which have wrought the greatest service to their country—of Nelson at Trafalgar, and of Wellington at Waterloo. But duty, he feared, was losing its authority in the present day; it was giving place to ease, pleasure, wealth, and luxury. It was necessary to reinforce in English minds and hearts the conviction that every man was still expected to do his duty; there must be something of the absolute unhesitating devotion with which the Japanese by systematic training had inured their sons to obey the call of patriotism. Only, the duty which Christians acknowledged would be a duty, not to their country alone, but to man and to God.

#### The Essence of Chivalry

No feature of ideal manhood was more significant than a man's control over his appetites and passions. The world needed Sir Galahad to-day, and it would not lack them, he thought, if the instinct of chivalry, which burned most brightly, perhaps, in the young, but could never wholly die so long as men were men and not beasts, were fanned into a flame from day to day by the sympathetic influence of the men and women whose office it was to mould the tender years of life. The essence of chivalry was respect for the poor, the weak, the downcast, and the afflicted; and it was just here that the religion of Jesus Christ cut right across the spirit of the Old World in its worship of strength, and across the spirit of the modern scientific world in its doctrine of the survival of the fittest. It would be a social no less than a spiritual error to aim at assimilating women to men. Apart from all ethical considerations, human life, which derives so large a part of its interest from its divergences, would become strangely monotonous and unattractive if men and women, instead of being complementary each to the other, should become as nearly as possible alike. For the divine law which governed the relations of society was not identity or equality, it was sympathy and reciprocity.

#### A Lesson but Half-learnt

The religion of Jesus Christ treated womanhood as the weaker sex, and because of its weakness claimed for it the greater honour and respect. If it refrained from giving women rights, or the same rights as man, it spontaneously accorded them privileges. Could there then be deeper folly than to destroy the mutual sympathy of the sexes by a fight for superiority or equality—a fight in which, so far as it was to be decided by physical strength, women must in the end come off second best? If he might revert to education, he thought it should be possible to cultivate the generous instinct of the young so that they would respond in all their lives to the

appeal of chivalry and chastity; he would try to send out every public school boy into the world with a deeply engraven resolve to treat every woman as though she were his own mother or sister. He was one who held that the chivalry of man to woman was a lesson but half learnt; were it not so, how could such a law as the recent White Slave Act be delayed until the twentieth century of the Christian era, and be needed in a Christian country?

#### Women's Interests in Men's Hands

"Then, if ever it is said in my hearing," went on the Dean, "that the custody of women's interests is safe in men's hands, I answer that, alas! it is not the teaching of history; it is disproved by the legislative inequalities which have too long determined the relation of the sexes, both in the sphere of politics and in the sphere of morals. How long has it taken to invest a married woman with the control of her own property? Be her husband cruel and wicked, as he might be, how long will it yet take to establish the equality which is the only justice that Christ or His Church can ever recognise between men and women? In respect of marriage and divorce, why should there not be the same law, social as well as political, for the adulterer and adulteress? Why should the man who does the wrong so often escape scot-free, and the woman be cast upon the street?"

The ideal of manhood, concluded the Dean, rested most of all in its relation to womanhood upon chivalry, and chivalry rested upon the gospel of Jesus.

#### OTHER SPEECHES

Mrs. Luke Paget, the wife of the Bishop of Stepney, who has borne a part in many phases of church work, followed, dealing historically with the position of women in the world. If the feminine majority in the State was an uneasy fact, their majority in the Church was a truism. Yet their loyalty had often been dismissed in some such phrase as "Nothing but a lot of women." It was a sign of the times that an increasing number of men and women were freely working together in the State or the municipality for the good of the body politic.

Miss Ruth Rouse, the travelling secretary of the World's Students' Christian Federation, said that the woman's movement was as important and as International as the Labour movement or the spirit of Nationalism. The great emotions behind the movement were the desire for self-expression of the human soul and freedom as seen in its desire for education. Miss Constance Smith, who but recently retired from the position of Lady Superintendent of the women in the Post Office Savings Bank Department, spoke of the ideal of womanhood from the standpoint of public work. There should be a definite ideal for woman proposing to enter public life, not only for her work, but for herself as well. Women brought to the service of the world special gifts of insight and understanding, but because they were women they started in a different relation to life from man.

#### A Militant's Protest

A protest was made by Miss Helen Sprott against condemnation of a section of women of whom she frankly admitted she was one, contending that the Church taught that men and women were equal. Churchmen and non-Churchmen had condemned women for actions which they did not condemn in men.

The Rev. L. Donaldson, speaking of the relations of men and women in industry, said that these should be made complementary, and not, as they largely were, competitive.

Mrs. Wentworth Stanley, an Australian lady, appealed to mothers and others interested in young girls to see what they were being taught, and what literature they were being given to read.

Amongst other speakers Miss Emily Ford expressed the firm conviction that there were strong spiritual forces behind the great woman's movement, while Mrs. Arthur Philip declared that present-day difficulties were due to insufficient teaching and a lack of sense of duty in both women and men. They could not shape the future with a pair of scissors.

#### THE AFTERNOON MEETING

At the afternoon meeting on Wednesday the question of marriage was discussed. The Bishop of Winchester was in the chair.

and the Bishop of Lewes spoke on the Christian ideal. The Rev. T. A. Lacey, who has made a study of the subject, dealt with the Church's law of marriage.

Mr. G. J. Talbot, K.C., said that before increased facilities for divorce were granted the question should be answered as to whether fifty years of the present law had heightened national character, and had improved the standard of morality or the regard for family life. The burden of proof in answering these questions rested upon those who thought that there should be further progress along the same path.

#### A PRESS COMMENT

We know that St. Paul assumed as permanent elements of the social state the existence of slavery and the subjection of women. Nevertheless, it was the application of the very principle which he inculcated—the superiority of the spirit over the letter—that has enabled a modern world to understand that women should have equal rights with men, and that slavery is, both economically and morally, the most pernicious of all institutions.—*Daily Telegraph*.

#### A SUFFRAGE WEEK OF PRAYER

The following appeal has been issued to the Press by the United Religious Woman Suffrage Societies:

"In the belief that the enfranchisement of women is in accordance with the will of God, and in view of the supreme and urgent importance of the settlement of the question, the undersigned Religious Suffrage Societies have agreed to issue a call for a National Week of Prayer for Woman Suffrage. They accordingly invite the observance of the week November 1 to 8 in the following manner:

"1. Every individual suffragist who recognises that the claim for the enfranchisement of women is based on justice and righteousness, and can be rightfully and conscientiously pleaded before God, is asked to join in this week of prayer.

"2. Every suffrage organisation (and every branch thereof) is asked to arrange at least one meeting during that week at which the spiritual and moral aspects of the women's movement may be emphasised.

"(Signed)

Kathleen Fitzgerald, Chairman of Executive, Monica Whately, Hon. Sec., Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.

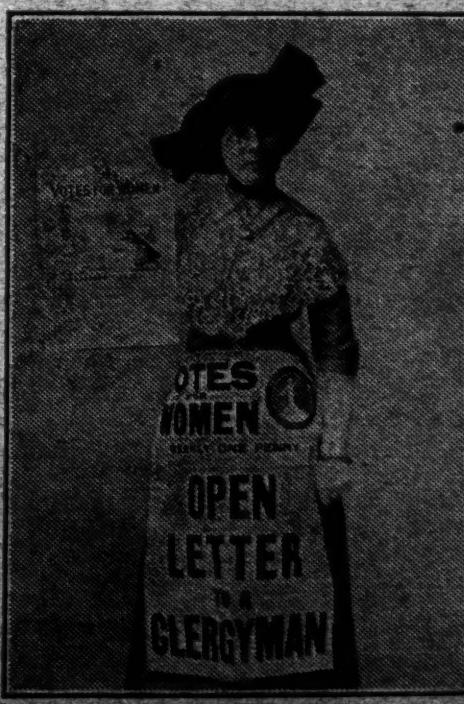
Edward Lincoln, President, Claude Hinscliff, Secretary, Church League for Women's Suffrage.

John Clifford, President, C. Fleming Williams, Hon. Sec., Free Church League for Women's Suffrage.

Gulielma Crosfield, President, Roger Clark, Hon. Sec., Friends' League for Women's Suffrage.

Morris Joseph, Vice-President, Dennis Cohen, Treasurer, Jewish League for Women's Suffrage.

Frances Balfour, President, Annie G. Ferrier, Hon. Sec., Scottish Churches League for Women's Suffrage."



A "Votes for Women" Fellow Selling the Paper at the Church Congress



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Colours: Purple, White, and Red. Motto: "Come on! Hold on! Fight on!"

The growth of the VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship has been so steady and so rapid during the summer months that the vision we held out last July of a scheme of extension and development on national lines has now materialised. Last Monday, September 29, the Fellowship obtained possession of three new rooms on the floor that adjoins the Editorial, Advertisement, and Publishing Offices of VOTES FOR WOMEN in Red Lion Court. These new premises are to be devoted exclusively to the extended business of the Fellowship.

### Increase of Staff

Three new workers have been added to the organising staff. Miss Dorothy Pethick, as Traveling Organiser, will devote her time and energy to the local Groups of Fellows throughout the country. She will respond to invitations for help in forming Groups or in organising meetings, and will supply the need that has been acutely felt by isolated workers for a personal link between Fellows in every part of the country and the Headquarters of the Fellowship in London. One of the new offices will be put at her disposal, and she will be assisted by a secretary, with whom she will keep in close touch when she is travelling from place to place, and who will co-operate with her in dealing with all correspondence respecting her special work.

Miss Boultong, as Hon. Organiser of Paper Selling in London, will carry on her work from a second room of these new offices, with greatly increased facility.

Miss Cook, as Business Secretary, will occupy the third room, and will take charge of the department that deals with tickets, properties, and general business details.

All this development entails considerable expenditure, but I confidently look to our large body of devoted and enthusiastic Fellows to supply the necessary funds for this purpose, as well as the nucleus of a fund for the upkeep of the paper. And I know they will take the opportunity afforded by the great meeting in the Kingsway Hall, next Thursday week, of making a financial demonstration of their serious and determined purpose to win Votes for Women as the next step in the extension of human liberty.

### Immediate Political Work

I shall continue to act as Hon. Sec. of the Fellowship, and I look forward to the coming months to fulfil their inspiring promise of strenuous work fraught with great results for the extension of the Woman's Movement and the attainment of women's enfranchisement. There is immediate work of the utmost political importance for every Fellow and local Group of Fellows to do. As suggested last week, a determined effort ought now to be made in every constituency to canvass electors and get together a body of men, ten, twenty, forty, a hundred strong—it is surprising how much even a small compact body of electors in any one constituency can effect—who will pledge themselves to make Votes for Women the chief issue as far as they are concerned at any future election.

### How to Do It

Let there be but one Fellow now enrolled in some remote constituency. He or she can begin by enrolling five or six others. These six people can set to work to get in touch with the electors and can form a special Electors' Canvassing Association. That is not half so difficult as for the first moment it sounds. For opinion has so ripened amongst thoughtful men of all classes that there are many individuals who, if a definite plan were put before them, are quite ready to combine to make the question of Votes for Women on the same terms as votes for men a dominant election issue in their own constituency. This association of electors should forthwith attend in force every political meeting in their own town and put certain questions that have been drawn up between them to every political speaker, irrespective of party nomenclature. In the event of an election they should immediately organise a deputation to all the candidates standing in their own Parliamentary division, and should demand an explicit statement of their position, and should afterwards follow them round their meetings, drawing from them a public expression of their opinion on this matter on every occasion when they seek the suffrages of the voters.

The influence of such action upon local politics would be incalculable. And there is no reason whatever why the scheme should not be successfully carried out in every town and in many villages. It only needs for its inception a few individuals of firm will who are in dead earnest and can give much personal energy and enthusiasm, as well as some time to get

ting in touch with others and inspiring them with the idea of combined action.

### To be found for the Seeking

Amongst the voters in every town there are to be found for the seeking individuals who can and will devote themselves to principle at the expense of party. It is the business of Votes for Women Fellows to find them, and to bring them together so that they may exert through combination the influence that as individuals they cannot attain. This work can go hand in hand with that of adding new members daily to the Fellowship and extending the sale of the Paper. Indeed, the Paper is essential to an active political campaign, and if VOTES FOR WOMEN itself is to be turned into an effective weapon in the service of liberty its point must then be turned against those who stand in the name and for the interests of political sex domination.

EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

### ADVERTISING THE KINGSWAY HALL MEETING

One of our Fellows sends us an interesting account of what she is doing to make known the Fellowship Meeting on October 16 in the Kingsway Hall. In the first place she is inserting, at her own expense, a special advertisement in the local paper. In the second place, she is posting a handbill to each of the local clergy calling attention to the fact that the Bishop of Kensington is to speak. In the third place, she is addressing envelopes to a large number of local people, inserting handbills, and delivering them personally. In each case she is giving her own name and address as a centre from which tickets may be obtained.

### PAPER-SELLING REPORT

Some of our sellers have gone down from London to Southampton for the express purpose of selling at the Church Congress.

There are so many meetings coming on now that Fellows are specially asked to come forward and sell at them. Those who have never sold before might try their prentice hand in the cheery atmosphere of a Suffrage meeting, and they would find, to their surprise, how much easier it was than they had imagined, and what good work they had done. Please send in names to the office, promising some time out of the week to this work. If it is impossible to say beforehand, volunteers are asked to come when they can. There is always somewhere to go to. Helpers are specially wanted to-day (Friday), tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon, and next Friday evening.

### FELLOWSHIP FUND SUBSCRIPTIONS

(To Sept. 29, 1913)

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Subscriptions already acknowledged	862 12 8	The Hon. Mrs. Cole-ridge .....	0 1 0
"Leeds" (Profit on Votes for August)	0 14 6	Miss Cortazzi .....	0 1 2
"Guppy".....	0 3 3	Miss F. E. Murby .....	0 1 0
Miss S. Murray .....	0 1 0	Mrs. W. H. Everett .....	0 1 0
Mrs. Jenkins .....	0 2 6	Mrs. McConnell .....	0 1 0
Miss E. M. Beagley (extra on VOTES)	0 1 6	Mrs. Anderson .....	1 0 0
Miss M. Haregrave .....	0 2 6	Miss F. M. Craig .....	0 1 0
Mrs. Cather .....	3 0 0	Mrs. Parsons .....	0 1 0
Miss M. Paton .....	0 1 6	Mrs. Ashford Green .....	0 3 0
Mrs. Anderson .....	1 0 0	Miss M. Balchin .....	0 1 0
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Miss E. M. Hockey .....	0 1 0	Miss L. Johnson .....	0 3 0
Miss H. Hume .....	0 2 0	Anou .....	0 4 9
Miss P. K. Shaw .....	0 3 3	Miss M. Paton .....	0 1 3
Miss Boorman (extra on VOTES) .....	0 0 5	Miss E. Fringle .....	0 1 0
Mrs. Jones .....	0 1 1	Mr. S. Griffith .....	0 1 0
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		Tickets Oct. 16, 1913.	9 19 0
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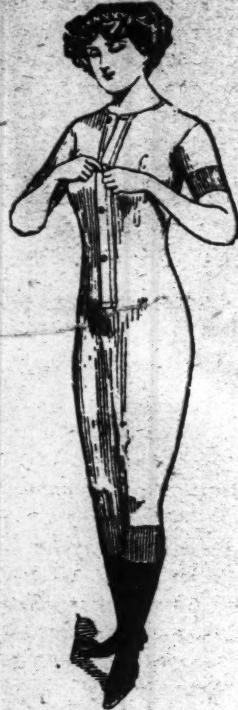
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**SUFFRAGIST SKETCHES**

Several of the story sketches in G. Colmore's new book,\* just published, will be familiar to our readers, for they have already appeared in *Votes for Women*. They will bear reading again, especially, we think, "Father, Mother, and Rosie" and "Herbert's Foot," which have for their background a Cabinet Minister's meeting and a Parliament Square scene, respectively. But there are also other stories, or rather character studies, in this collection which are equally worth reading, and all the more so because they do not directly deal with the Suffrage campaign. "Ope" is an admirable example of one of these. It sketches a little wastrel woman who used to amuse her boon companions of the public-house with a popular representation of the Suffragette as depicted in the comic papers. She disappeared for some months, and on her return was offered drinks and asked for a repetition of her favourite "turn." She refused the drinks, and gave them the representation; but this time it was the real Suffragette and not a travesty of her. She was asked what the Suffragists had given her to make it worth her while to do this sort of thing. "They've given me 'ope," she replied—

"'Ope,'" she repeated. "Parsons in prisons ain't never give me none; lydies with trackses nor yet soup tickets never give me none; a miser'ble sinner, that was all I was—till I come across the Suffragettes. There wasn't no more talk of sinners; wot they says was as I was a woman . . . —yes, blime me, an' wot a woman can be an' as ter be . . . 'Alf afraid I was—yes, mor'n 'alf—ter come, afraid of 'ow yer'd larf; only Suffragettes ain't never afraid, not of larfin', nor prisons, nor laws, nor nuffin', an' so I come. It makes yer brave, it do, to be a Suffragette. 'Cos why? It gives yer 'ope.'"

But undoubtedly the best sketch in the book is "The Woman in the Corner." It has something of the French *conte* about it, and we could scarcely give it higher praise than that. We will not spoil the reader's pleasure in it by quotation.

**"THE CHRISTIAN COMMONWEALTH"**  
An Interesting Departure

As we announced last week, the *Christian Commonwealth*, a paper that always contains matter of interest to intelligent women, is about to publish a series of articles by its Special Commissioner, each of which will deal with a particular phase of the present unrest among women, showing the causes and consequences of this human development of modern life. This week's issue contains a preliminary article, stating the bare facts of the problem as it exists to-day. Calling it "the most challenging and vital development of our day," the writer goes on to show that the woman's movement—

is essentially a revolt against the ideas and institutions which limit their individual development; an assertion of the elementary rights of self-determination; and a claim for freedom to live their own lives and order their own individual destinies.

He proceeds to touch lightly upon the consequent "alarm and anger" which is roused in the modern man by this invasion of his privileges by women, and then goes on to discuss the darker side of the question which is involved in the economic and social position of the modern woman. He gives an outline of the causes which have forced about 5,000,000 women into the labour market—their numerical superiority to men, the displacement of their home work, which is now done in the factory, and so on. Finally, the writer states that women are exploited because they are helpless, and that the cheapness of their labour is one of the causes of the growth of women's work. With all this, and especially with women's wages, he proposes to deal in detail in his later articles, which will be awaited with much interest by all who are engaged in the great battle for women's emancipation.

The next article, which will appear in the issue of October 8, is to be on "The Position of the Married Woman."

**BOOKS RECEIVED**

- "The Soul of a Suffragette." By W. L. Courtney. (London: Chapman and Hall. Price 6s.)
- "The Englishwoman." October. (London: Sidgwick and Jackson. Price 1s. net.)
- "The Old Farm House in Tottenham Court Road." By Ambrose Heal. (London: Heal and Son, Ltd. Price not stated.)
- "Cinderalline, or The Little Red Slipper." By Florence Kiper. (Chicago: Dramatic Publishing Co. Price 25 cents.)
- "Mr. Jones and the Governess." By G. Colmore. (Women's Freedom League. Price 6d.)

**VOTES FOR WOMEN FELLOWSHIP**

—A—

**PUBLIC MEETING**

WILL BE HELD IN THE

**KINGSWAY HALL,**  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 1913, at 8 p.m.

Chair: MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

Speakers: The Rt. Rev. Bishop of Kensington, Miss Evelyn Sharp, Mr. P. W. Pethick Lawrence.

TICKETS: Seats 2/6 and 1/- numbered and reserved, 6d. unreserved; Balcony 1/- numbered and reserved (only a few left), 6d. unreserved; also a few platform seats 2/6, to be obtained from the Ticket Secretary "Votes for Women," 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

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If you would replenish your linen cupboard with good things, come to our Galleries and compare prices. If you will but step in, examine some article and then ask the price, we shall be satisfied, for inevitably it will be the case that the value you judged will be above the price we ask.

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And so on. Everywhere in these Galleries there are pleasant surprises: no matter what you pick up, the price will be less than the one which instinctively rises up in your mind as being fair value.

Now is the time to look to the linen cupboard and to see what needs replacing. And now it is that Waring & Gillow lay out a display of linens which are a delight to the housewife and but little strain on her purse.

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80 in. by 100 in. 21/6, 100 in. by 108 in. 25/6.

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Exclusive design. Hand-woven.  
Heavy make, will resist the wear and tear of modern laundries.

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23 in. square, 22/9 doz.  
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Full Single, about 80 in. by 100 in. 18/9.  
Bed Size, 100 in. by 108 in. 22/9.

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Size about 6 ft. by 6 ft. " 20/6 each.

We share the belief of the publishers of "Votes for Women" that their readers will respond to our announcements, and we would ask all those who visit our Galleries to kindly mention the name of this paper.

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BARBICAN, E.C.

On TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4th, 1913, at 3 &amp; 8 p.m.

The principal parts, including Songs and North American Indian Dances, will be taken by friends who helped with the Dramatic Entertainments and Dances at the International Suffrage Fair in November, 1912.

TICKETS 1s., 2s., and 1s., all Reserved and Numbered, to be had at W.F.L., 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, Strand, W.C.; or Brackenhill, Highland Road, Bromley, Kent.

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Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.**NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.**Supported by  
The Actresses' Franchise League, the Women Writers' Suffrage League, and the Women's Tax Resistance League,  
will hold**A MASS MEETING**  
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**TOWER HILL**  
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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 3.30 p.m.**SPEAKERS:  
Miss JANETTE STEER. Mr. PETHICK LAWRENCE.  
Mr. JOHN SCURR. Mrs. W. NEVINSON.  
Mrs. KINTON PARKES. Mrs. MERIVALE MAYER.**COME and SUPPORT US!****ESSAYS  
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In honour of the Suffragist Men Rebels.

Will be held in the Large

**MEMORIAL HALL, FARRINGDON STREET,**  
On WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 1913, at 8 p.m.

Doors open at 7.30.

## Speakers —

**Mr. H. D. HARBOUR, Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY.****Mr. F. W. PETHICK LAWRENCE**

(Engagements permitting).

**Mr. JOHN SCURR, Mr. C. W. WEBBER.**Chairman — **Mr. H. W. NEVINSON.**

## TICKETS.

Numbered & Reserved 2/- Reserved 1/- & 6d. Unreserved 3d.  
TICKETS can be obtained from the above Society, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, the Men's League Office, 136, St. Stephen's House, Westminster; the Westminster W.S.P.U. Shop, 17, Tothill Street, W.; the W.S.P.U. Shop, 143, Church Street, Kensington; the W.S.P.U. Office, 310, High Street, Kilburn; W.S.P.U. Shops and Offices, and at the door.**MARCHERS' QUI VIVE CORPS.**Edinburgh to London, 466 miles for Woman's Suffrage.  
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1913.

**NEW POLICY FOR  
A GENERAL ELECTION**

The uncertainty of the present general political situation is such that a dissolution within the course of the next few months is certainly possible, and perhaps probable. Are woman suffragists prepared for such a contingency? Have they carefully considered the new circumstances which would exist and made up their minds what policy they would adopt?

In deciding upon their course of action in such an event, we ask them to bear in mind that politics are like a game of chess; with each new move of the adversary a new situation is created which needs a new strategy of action. A plan of attack or defence, which was admirably suited to meet the adversary's combination of pieces a move or two ago, may have become wholly unsuited to the present position. To change one's policy is not therefore an admission of error of judgment in the past, but a sign of political life, a proof that one is a player in the game and not merely an onlooker.

What are the policies which have already been tried by suffragists at elections? Taken chronologically in order of adoption, the first policy was that of seeking to obtain pledges of support from individual candidates for Parliament; the second that of opposition to all candidates fighting under the *egis* of the present Government, whatever their personal attitude to woman suffrage; the third that of support of the candidates of the Labour Party.The first of these is the simplest and most natural. Jones and Smith are rival candidates for a certain constituency; woman suffragists go to each of them and ask them to support woman suffrage; Jones expresses himself friendly, Smith hostile; woman suffragists use their influence therefore in favour of Jones and against Smith. This policy is easily understood by the electors, and when it was initiated, many years ago, was of great value because it secured favourable promises from something like two-thirds of the elected members of the House of Commons, thus making out a first-rate *prima facie* case for the passage of a Bill through Parliament. Nevertheless, in spite of its simplicity and early success the policy has ultimately failed, or at any rate become obsolete, a fact which we understand is now admitted by the leaders of all the principal suffrage societies. Its failure is due to the fact that in the modern House of Commons the initiative in legislation has passed completely out of the hands of the private member into the hands of the Government. Accordingly, though decades have gone by since a House of Commons was first returned containing a majority "friendly" to woman suffrage, it has never been

found possible to bring home to the individual member the failure of Parliament to carry the Bill.

The discovery of the legislative impotence of the private member and the paramountcy of the Government was part of the political awakening of women initiated by the founders of the "militant" movement; it led at once to the adoption by the new society of an election policy of opposition to all Government candidates. The grounds for this policy were firstly that the Government held the fate of woman suffrage in their hands, and had refused either themselves to enfranchise women by a Government measure or to allow the passage of a Private Member's Bill; and secondly, that an ordinary Liberal member, whatever his personal views upon woman suffrage, would go to the House of Commons for the express purpose of keeping the Liberal Government in office.

More recently a third policy has been inaugurated, and is being carried out at by-elections by certain sections of suffragists. It consists in giving direct support to all Labour candidates on the ground that the Labour Party is the one party which is definitely, as a party, favourable to woman suffrage.

It is not our intention in the present article to discuss the rival merits of these policies on the assumption of the continuance of the present general political situation, but to consider whether in the event of an immediate general election any of them would adequately meet the case. The essentially new circumstance which has to be taken into consideration is the complete uncertainty as to the probable result of an appeal to the country.

With this salient feature in view, let us examine the various policies *seriatim*. The policy of deciding by the views of individual candidates is, as we have pointed out, already discredited as unsuitable to modern conditions. The policy of attacking without question all supporters of the present Liberal Government, though logically defensible (for the Government continues to hold office during an election), would be unsatisfactory, for it would bring no pressure whatever to bear on the Unionist Party, and might have the effect of assisting to build up a great Unionist majority absolutely unpledged as to woman suffrage. The policy of supporting the Labour Party does not meet the situation; firstly, because it is at best only sectional, and could only be put into operation in a mere fraction of the constituencies; and secondly, because it takes no adequate account of the fact that the Labour Party has shown by its record during the existing Parliament that it is not really independent of the Liberal Party. Apart, moreover, from the failure, in the new circumstances, of each of the election policies considered separately, a serious drawback to them lies in the fact that in many cases they bring suffragists of different societies into direct opposition in the same constituency, and the bewildered elector is accordingly stultified by conflicting advice.What, then, is to be done in the event of an immediate general election? We say unhesitatingly that the right course is first of all to approach the leaders of both the great parties and ascertain from them what their Government is prepared to do with regard to woman suffrage if, as the result of the general election, they find themselves in power. The next step will be on the basis of this new information to formulate an *ad hoc* policy with which to fight the election.

Space prohibits us from dealing at length in this issue with the development of this proposition, but we may say at once that in our view the best course would be for the various suffrage societies to act together in preparing a joint memorial to each of the party leaders; but if the difficulties in the way of this concerted action appear insuperable, then the same end might be served by simultaneous action taken by the suffrage societies singly or in groups. In either event, it may be taken for granted that in the present state of the suffrage question it would be impossible for the party leaders to refuse to give an answer or to postpone their answer for an undue length of time.

We place this idea before suffragists at the present juncture while a general election is still merely in the realm of possibility, because we are anxious that whether they ultimately accept or reject it they shall at least give it full consideration. The one thing we hope they will not do is to allow themselves, from sheer inertia, to drift into a continuance of their present policies under circumstances to which they have ceased to be applicable. We shall in future issues of this paper develop our proposition further, and endeavour to meet possible objections; in the meantime we shall welcome expressions of opinion from our readers upon the subject.

# A WORKING WOMAN'S LIFE

## A True Record

I was born at Long Wittenham, in Berkshire, in January, 1863, of respectable but poor parents. My father was a wheelwright, not earning as good wages as they do in the present day, and I was the youngest but one of a family of ten. My childhood passed without anything of note, as far as I can remember, until I was thirteen years old, when the first great trouble of my life came. My dear mother was taken from me, leaving me and a brother four years younger than myself alone with my father, my elder sisters and brother all being away in London. Luckily for me, my mother had brought me up, young as I was, to be domesticated, and had given me a good instruction with my needle as well as housework; so I at once, with the help of my father, took up the duties that my dear mother was forced to give up.

Things seemed to go on smoothly until I was eighteen years of age, when I had a desire to go out and face the world for myself; so my father got someone to do for him, and I went. As my sisters were in London, I naturally wanted to go there, too, so got a place and started in service there. I had not been in London long when I met my husband that is, and of course, fell in love. In February, 1883, I married, and thought I was the happiest woman in the world. My husband never earned a great wage, but we were happy in every way, and in February, 1884, what I thought was the greatest happiness in my life was mine when I became the mother of my first boy. All went well until May, 1885, when my husband fell out of work, and for some months he could get nothing to do except an odd day here and there.

### The First Pinch of Poverty

Then I commenced to feel the first pinch of poverty. Not starting with too much, I soon parted with everything I had got, and some days had nothing to eat at all. Being again about to become a mother, I got into rather a weak state of health. It was in February, 1886, that my husband again started regular work, my second son then being five weeks old and rather delicate. My husband also seemed to be falling into bad health, often being obliged to lie up, which, with doctor's expenses, kept us from getting on at all; and so things continued till 1890. I was then the mother of four boys and one girl; the girl, who was my third child, I lost when eleven days old.

In September, 1890, I lost my two youngest boys with convulsion fits, and buried them both in less than a month, which quite broke me up in health, and for two years I could scarcely get about. For several months I had to keep entirely to my bed, as I was too weak through an internal complaint to get about at all; indeed, I began to think I should never get well again. One day, however, a friend persuaded me to go to a hospital, and there I learnt that I must go under an operation if I wished to live, which, of course, I consented to do. After I got over it I was very weak for some months, the money my husband earned not being sufficient to get me enough nourishment. At last I succeeded in getting better, and being reduced to a state of poverty, I made up my mind to go to work, so as to get ourselves straight again.

I got work, and for a time things seemed to brighten again; and we went on fairly well till the year 1902, when my husband had a fall and injured his ribs, and got a bad shaking all over. He was then helpless for a long time. Being weak on the chest, pneumonia set in, and for some time his life was despaired of. For seven weeks I did not know what it was to go to bed; I slept on a couch for an hour or two as best I could, as it did not do to leave him. Fortunately for me, my two sons were working, otherwise I do not know how I should have lived, as my husband only had his sick pay coming in, and I was obliged to give up my work to look after him. I thought then that my trouble was at its worst, but I had to learn that I had a lot worse to come, for in March, 1904, my second son, who was then eighteen years of age, dropped dead as he was going to bed. The shock, of course, made my husband much worse, and again his life hung on a thread. In 1906 my only remaining son married, and I was left alone to support my husband as best I could. I had, of course, to go out again to work, as through prolonged illness my husband's sick pay was entirely done with.

### A Seventeen Hours' Working Day

The struggle was very great. It was two years

before I got regular employment. I now start work at 5 a.m., and between that time and 10 a.m. I do fourteen office rooms. I then have a short time for breakfast, after which I clean residential flats till 4.30 (longer if required) in the afternoon, with the exception of thirty minutes for dinner. At 4.30, if I am not required any longer, I am at liberty to go home, where my household duties of washing, ironing, cleaning, cooking, and mending commence, which keep me on till at least ten o'clock, making about a seventeen hours' working day. For my duties at home I get nothing. For my work out I get £1 per week. I pay 8s. rent, 1s. insurance, 3s. light and firing, 1s. tram fares, and 1s. 6d. for help on Thursdays, thus leaving 5s. 6d. per week to live on, and pay all other expenses, doctor's bills, &c. These are not the only expenses to be met, as sometimes relatives are ill and require assistance. For instance, for four months my sister was ill in the infirmary, and to get to her, which I did twice a week, it cost me 1s. 6d. Then she was taken worse, and I was wanted to see her every day, thus making expenses very heavy. For ten days I did this. Then it came that they gave me no hope, and asked me to leave her as little as possible. I therefore stayed, with occasional journeys home for refreshment, from Saturday till Tuesday morning, getting short sleeps in the chair as I sat beside her bed. Not being able to get off another day from work, I sent my son's wife to take my place, and went straight from the infirmary to my work, and straight from work again to her, just in time to see her breathe her last. All this extra expense (one day it cost me 2s. 6d. travelling backwards and forwards) has got to be met out of my money. For eleven years I have never received a penny from my husband.

### Double Shifts—like a Machine

They say women are the weaker sex. Where can you find men who could for so long stand the strain I have had of so many hours? When a man has done a fair day's work he comes home and expects to be waited on and do nothing else. A woman, when she comes home, is expected still to keep on like a machine where there are two supplies of work-

men, one to go off and another to come on, so that the machine never stops; so much is expected of women. They say married women do not want the vote. I want it. I consider I have earned it. I fulfil the duties of a man, and I think I have a perfect right to one. For years I have been a reader of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and each week I have read what brave women are doing in fighting for the vote that is so useful for many more like myself, who have been called upon to work for a delicate husband.

Are we always to go on like this to the end? I say no! Women must have and will win the vote, so that they can have a voice in governing the country and making life easier for the young generation now growing up. Men are kind in their way, but they cannot understand and sympathise with us as women can with each other. Men and women together ought to make the laws that both are expected to keep.

I pass on my VOTES FOR WOMEN to my next door neighbour, and she is very interested in it, as she is a widow and a householder, and she also wishes to have the vote, and she says she is entitled to it—which she is.

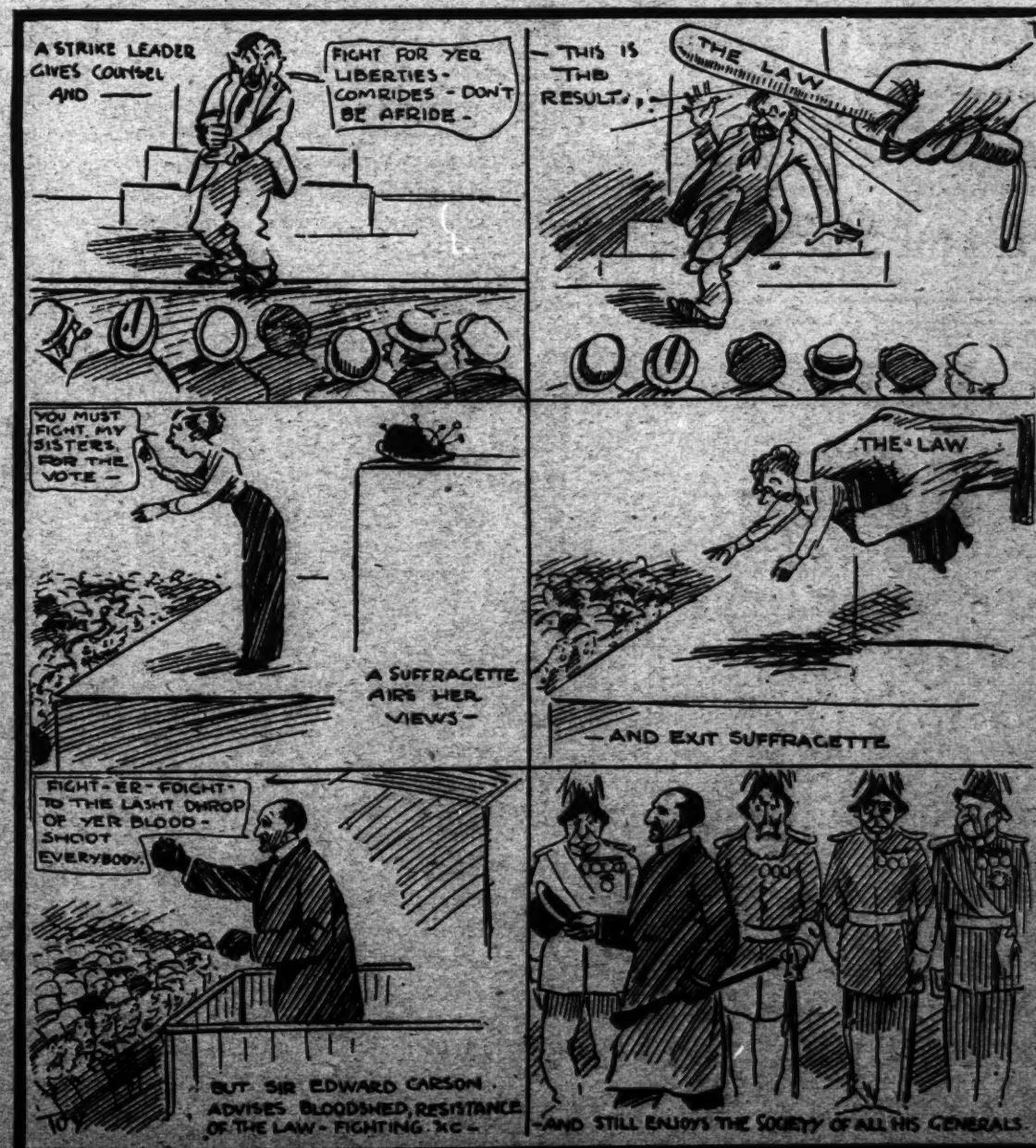
### PUBLIC MEETING, OCTOBER 16

#### The Bishop of Kensington to Speak

Great interest is being aroused in the next meeting organised by the VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship at the Kingsway Hall, which the Bishop of Kensington has promised to address. Tickets in the most favourite portions of the Hall are already nearly sold out, and an early application for the remaining places is accordingly desirable.

The chair will be taken, at 8 p.m., by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and the other speakers will be Miss Evelyn Sharp and Mr. Pethick Lawrence.

The meeting is open to the public, but admission is by ticket only. Tickets (price 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.) are obtainable from The Ticket Secretary, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, as follows:—Stalls, numbered and reserved, 2s. 6d. and 1s., unreserved 6d.; balcony, numbered and reserved (only a few left), 1s., unreserved 6d. There are also a few seats on the platform available at 2s. 6d. each.



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## "NOT FINE ENOUGH"

"The Fugitive." By John Galsworthy. (At the Prince of Wales' Theatre)

The problem is easily stated. Clare is a beautiful young woman, one of the many daughters of a country parson. She has been brought up as "a lady," in "a sheltered life." As was expected of her, she has made a good marriage. To marry was her profession. Her husband is everything that is desirable—rich, nice-looking, well-connected, careful of "good form," pleasurable satisfied with the woman he possesses. The only misfortune is that after the first year she began to sicken of him, and now four more years of mental sickness increasing to loathing have passed. They are childless; and, in passing, I raise the objection that, as far as I remember, all the recent writers and dramatists, except Ibsen, who have dealt with this problem have shirked the very heart of it by eliminating children. But Nature does not eliminate them. In thousands of cases they are the very causes of the woman's long drawn out tragedy, and of the man's, too.

In Clare's case, that almost insoluble part of the problem has not arisen. She finds her husband unendurable, though she cannot exactly say why. He is the average good sort of man, but they have repeated differences and quarrels, followed by repeated reconciliations—"the reconciliations of two animals," as she says. The repetition of loveless scenes is no longer to be endured. She yearns "to breathe," to "break out," to live in freedom. She yearns for some fine and imaginative life; again she cannot exactly say what she yearns for. Partly under the persuasion of a friend, a "literary man," she does break out. With nothing but her clothes and a few jewels, she goes away to a hotel, refusing ever to return to a comfortable existence for which she can no longer pay the required price. The problem of the play is: What can such a woman in such a situation do next?

#### The Literary Man

Clare tries a shopgirl's life. She is disgusted at the regularity, the monotony, the horrible meals, the joylessness of every day. Men insult her. On one she is compelled to draw a hat-pin—an entirely unnecessary and impossible device, reminding one of the ancient myth of Suffragettes drawing hat-pins on the police. She is soon discovered in the shop by one of her married friends, and, like a hunted creature, she runs away and takes cover in the rooms of Malise, the literary man, whom she has now begun to love in earnest. Unhappily, Malise is the weakest part of the play. I have known literature and literary men. I know well the dangers of the temperament and the profession—the hesitancy and indecisiveness, the pervading unreality of outlook, the misplaced confidence in words, making us imagine that when a thing is well said it is as good as done, or even better than done. All the inanity of the literary mind I know. But though I have known many literary men like Malise, he is drawn just too inane for the situation.

Clare is not a very great woman, and love is a great illusion; but still, one hopes, even a woman like Clare would hardly have been deluded into passionate love for Malise.

From the first he had urged her, in a vague sort of way, to "spread her wings," to "live her life," "to save her soul," and so on. All excellent advice, but no man could give it unless he has some sort of idea how the life is to be lived, and the soul saved. And Malise has no sort of idea. He can only vaguely propose that she should come and share his penury, his "char," and his duns. And when at last she does share them, he cannot keep her. He cannot even write. He reads us some of his "copy" aloud, and I hope and believe it would wreck any paper in Fleet Street. No wonder the editor of the *Watchfire* grasped at the excuse of the divorce proceedings to sack him. He was giving £3 a week to a man who would be dear at threepence!

#### The Last Resource

Malise has not even the wit to see that the damages of £2,000 which the husband claims from him with the "generous and Quixotic" design of settling it on Clare, could be afterwards wiped off by a word from Clare herself, and so his threatened bankruptcy might be avoided. To save him from bankruptcy, to save his precious career on the *Watchfire* (how the editor must have cursed her!) the fugitive breaks cover and makes for the open again. Having nothing else to sell, she resolves to sell herself. In a scene of overwhelming pity and shame, we are shown the fashionable restaurant in which she tries to do it. I have seen few things of such appalling effect upon

the stage as the simplicity of the dialogue in that last Act, and the quiet intensity of Miss Irene Rooke's acting. Her answer of "Yes" to the man who asks if he may give her supper is the tragic climax of the play—an overwhelming climax.

So, while men in the next room sing, "To-day the stag must die," she suddenly drinks the poison, sickened at the thought, not of that night, but of its future continual repetition. She could not sell herself to her husband; how could she sell herself to anyone who chose to bid? The problem remains: what could such a woman in such a situation have done? She is not a great or powerful or very courageous woman, but she refused to take unless she gave. She was "out to save her soul," but she could do nothing to feed her body. She had been brought up as "a lady." She had learnt nothing. As she complains, she couldn't even do art work. We are told there are "lots of women" like that; she was "not the first by thousands." "God help all ladies without money," and "It's a curse to be a lady if you've got to make your living," are sentences in the play. What is such a woman to do?

I can see no answer. We must remember she is not a great woman. She is called "plucky," but she has not real courage, nor endurance, nor great intelligence even. As her woman friend tells her, she is fine, but not fine enough. A really fine woman might have dragged even the literary man up to something better; at all events she would have insisted on his writing a decent style. But though the drama might have been true thirty years ago, I think even a woman like Clare need not be so entirely without resource in these days. She might have posed for artists, or acted the heroine for a cinematograph. Nor do I think her real friends would now desert so beautiful and charming a woman, or hunt her down like a stag.

So it seems to me the play is a little behind our time. But none the less, it is one of the plays that all Suffragists and all Antis should see. The construction is admirable; so is the comedy, and so is the whole of the acting. The last Act is, as I have said, one of the most poignant and terrible scenes upon the modern stage.

H. W. N.

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### WOMEN IN TRADES AND PROFESSIONS

#### WOMEN CLERKS.

Both women teachers and women clerks made the demand last Saturday that their salaries should be made equal to those of men when the work done in both cases was the same. In London, the National Union of Clerks organised a demonstration in which both men and women took part, for the purpose of bringing their grievances before the public. They assembled on the Embankment, and about a hundred of them marched to Hyde Park, carrying sandwich-boards, which set forth, amongst other things, the demand—"Equal pay for equal work; women clerks take note." The same principle was insisted upon in the speeches made subsequently in Hyde Park.

#### Women Clerks Who Have Votes

In Oregon, according to the New York correspondent of the *Times*, the Industrial Welfare Commission of the State has made a ruling, to become effective on November 23, fixing the minimum weekly wage for all adult women clerks who are not apprentices at \$9.25. To give our readers some idea of what this means, we may cite the evidence given before the State Commission of enquiry into the relation between vice and low wages, held last spring in Chicago, which led to the conclusion that \$5.00 was a bare living wage for a woman, and brought out incidentally the admission from one witness that if she could be assured of a regular wage of \$12.00 per week, she would gladly give up her present mode of living, by which she earned \$25.00 to \$60.00, and to which she had been driven by the inability to earn more than a starvation wage for herself and her parents.

In Oregon women won the vote in 1912.

#### THE WOMEN TEACHERS

At Derby, also, last Saturday, the same principle of equal pay for equal work was under discussion at the Conference of the National Federation of Class Teachers. In moving a resolution authorising the Federal Council to adopt a standard scale of salaries for certificated teachers. Mr. F. Barracough (Leeds) included the provision that women teachers in boys' schools should be remunerated at the same rate as men teachers in those schools.

An interesting situation arose in the course of debate on this resolution, as a certain number of women speakers, who were strongly in favour of the principle of equal pay for equal work, felt themselves called upon to oppose the resolution because the last clause of it, evidently inserted to safeguard the interests of men in those cases where the women threatened their economic position, did not seek to establish the principle except when the position of the men was threatened.

#### The Dissatisfied Women

Miss R. M. Hoey (Bradford), for instance, proposed the deletion of the last clause on the ground that it implied that women should not have equal payment with men throughout the profession.

The paragraph in question would make three sexes—men, women, and women in boys' schools. (Laughter.) They were beginning to realise that they were merely wanted as numbers. ("No," and "Quite right.") There was a time when women in infant schools were considered of less value than those in the senior schools. Women rose in rebellion, and they had the hearty support of their men comrades, because that did not affect the position of men. (Laughter.) She supposed that women were employed in boys' schools because they were more suitable. ("No.") She thanked them for that protest. They were there, then, only because they were cheaper labour. (Cheers.)

#### An Irreparable Injustice

Mr. J. Lyon (Leeds) said he supposed they would always have this controversy so long as the sexes remained as they were. (Laughter.) Would it not be much better for women to band together and say they would not have women in boys' schools? It was physically impossible for a woman to do a man's work, and it was doing an irreparable injustice to women to encourage them to try to do so.

Miss J. F. Wood (vice-president) said if the amendment were adopted it would mean that they did not want women to be paid at the same rate as men. The motion, at all events, did go a little way in the direction of equal pay. Women were under-selling men not only in the boys' schools but in the whole teaching profession. (Hear, hear.) Until they stood for the principle of equal pay they

would never give women the chance of finding out what work they really could do.

The amendment was defeated, and the motion carried.

#### MILITANT WOMEN TEACHERS

The women teachers of Edmonton have succeeded in obtaining some measure of equality with their men colleagues by agitating to such good purpose that when recently the salaries of the latter were raised, the women's were raised in exactly equal proportions. When the new salary scheme was first drawn up the women teachers combined and approached the Edmonton Education Committee in order to point out that if the salaries of men and women could not yet be equalised, at least any rise that was contemplated should be the same for both.

#### THE PENALISATION OF MARRIAGE

##### Women School Cleaners Must Not Marry

The lot of the charwoman is already hard enough in view of the rise in the cost of living, which has been unattended by any corresponding rise in her scale of wages. But in future, under the *egis* of the London County Council at all events, she is not to be allowed even to be a charwoman unless she is unmarried, or a widow, or the wife of a man who is "permanently or for a lengthened period incapacitated from supporting her."

The resolution, as passed by the Council on July 15, 1913, is as follows:—

"That, except as regards those women cleaners in the service of the Council on July 23, 1912, who were employed under the scheme approved on November 14, 1912, women cleaners employed in the Council's educational institutions be required to resign on marriage, but that married women whose husbands are permanently or for a lengthened period incapacitated from supporting them, be deemed eligible for employment in this capacity, provided that no woman cleaner who is already married at the date of this resolution shall be required to resign for that reason."

#### A Blow at Women's Independence

What this resolution really means is that a woman cleaner can only retain her economic independence by remaining unmarried, or by marrying a husband who is not able-bodied. Apart from the injustice of the new regulation, it amounts to a penalisation of marriage; for even widows will be compelled to resign from their posts of school cleaners if they re-marry. Would any class of men workers submit to such a restriction of their right to work?

#### THE HOXTON ROPEMAKERS

Dear Editors.—I see in this week's VOTES FOR WOMEN that a correspondent "personally known to a member of the firm" whose workers are out on strike in Hoxton, says it is not true that "many of the girls only make 2s. 6d. a week," or less.

Those of us who have been amongst these girls lately know quite well that they do make more than this, but what they and we do say is that owing to reductions for "bad work" in the tow, of which the firm is sole judge, girls have worked a 57½ hours' week and received at the end of it as little as 2s. 6d.

They are asking for a minimum wage of 8s., and the firm, while maintaining that their average wage is 8s. 5d., refuses, as a matter of principle, to recognise the lower minimum. The tragedy of it is that, in common with many other women, these girls have often to help widowed mothers and out-of-work fathers to support younger brothers and sisters, and on an average weekly wage, we are told, of 8s. 5d. Why not grant the 8s. a week for certain (it is so little), and at least avoid the possibility of 2s. 6d. a week, which the firm admits has occurred?

And perhaps your correspondent will use her good offices with the firm to improve the sanitary conditions. It is stated by the women that there are two conveniences (for over 100 women and girls), one with an insecure lock and a window accessible to onlookers, cleaned out by a man, and watched over by another man, who times the girls, a necessity—so the firm replies—to prevent the girls wasting time therein. Washing arrangements are said to consist of pails and soap, the workers' aprons serving as towels. As surely, it is time these workers struck for more decent conditions, and all with a decent standard will support them. Thanks to the Woman's Movement, the sweating of women is becoming an unpopular idea, and practical sympathy counts for much in fighting this evil.

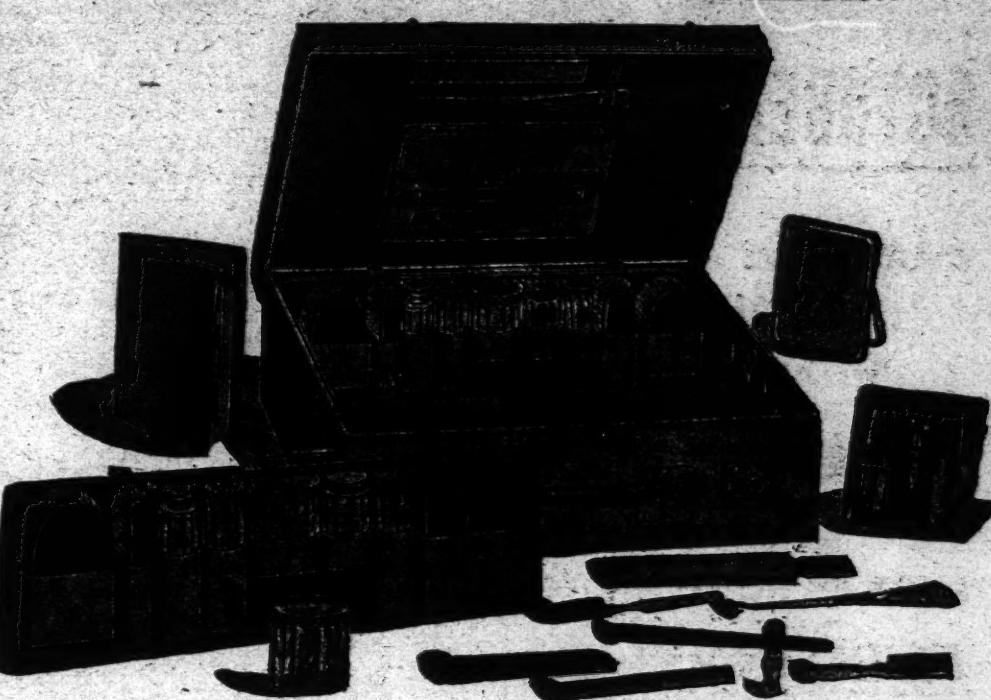
Yours, &c.,  
BARBARA TOCHAKOVSKY  
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## THE CAT AND MOUSE ACT AGAIN

### W.S.P.U. Officials Re-arrested

Last Wednesday, at half-past one o'clock Mrs. Sanders and Miss Kerr, the financial secretary and manager of the W.S.P.U., who were sentenced on June 17, on a charge of conspiracy, to fifteen months and twelve months' imprisonment respectively, were re-arrested under the Cat and Mouse Act. It will be remembered that they were both released after a hunger-strike last June, and that Mrs. Sanders was re-arrested shortly after, and again released after a second hunger-strike. Both have since been taking their summer holiday unmolested by the police, and Mrs. Sanders, it is stated, went to the W.S.P.U. offices several times last week.

On October 1, however, it was publicly stated that they would officially resume their duties at Lincoln's Inn House on that day, and consequently, when they went out at lunch time Inspector Buckley and several plain clothes officers proceeded to arrest them. But not without considerable difficulty, for members of the W.S.P.U. who happened to be in the building hastened to the rescue as soon as they saw what was happening, and a desperate struggle followed, in which it is said that passers-by took part. Finally the police, with the aid of uniformed reinforcements, managed to get away with their two prisoners, whom they took in a taxi-cab to Holloway.

In the course of the struggle Mrs. Bushell, Miss Virtue, Miss Cook, and Miss Ford were arrested and taken to Bow Street Police Court, where they were brought before the magistrate later in the afternoon and sentenced to one month's imprisonment, with the option of a 40s. fine.

### OTHER RE-ARRESTS UNDER THE ACT

On Saturday, September 27, Mr. Robson Paige, while walking on Tooting Common, was re-arrested for a second time under the Cat and Mouse Act. He was sentenced on July 15 to one month's imprisonment.

ment on a charge of obstruction outside the Pavilion meeting; he adopted a hunger strike, and was released on licence on July 20. On August 1 he was re-arrested, again adopted the hunger strike, and was released for a second time on August 6.

Miss Lake, who was released under the Cat and Mouse Act on September 22, was reported "missing" on Saturday last. It is said that she went out for a drive, and during this met a motor containing some friends; she got into the car and drove off, since which nothing has been seen of her by the police.

Miss Rigby, who has been four times re-arrested under the Cat and Mouse Act, was missing when the police went to re-arrest her for a fifth time, last Tuesday.

### MILITANTS IN SCOTLAND

At the recent gathering of Ministers in the Isle of Arran, the Suffragist element was not missing. When the Prime Minister first arrived on his visit to the Chief Government Whip, he was cheered by the crowd, but among the cheers rang out the cry, "Votes for Women!" Soon after Mr. Asquith and his colleagues had left the island, two Suffragists from Glasgow arrived at Brodick Castle; one interviewed Mr. Ilkingworth, and, meanwhile, the other hoisted a Suffrage flag on the castle flagstaff bearing a message calling upon the Premier to stop punishing Suffragists while he allowed Sir Edward Carson to go free.

Several greens of the Kilspindie Golf Links, Aberlady, were damaged on September 26. On Tuesday two greens were burnt by acids at the Yarmouth links; Suffragist messages were found, and also a card bearing the words: "The timber yard was fired by us. There is no mystery about it. Oil was poured on the planks and a candle left burning." The damage to the latter amounted to £35,000.

### SUFFRAGISTS WHO ARE NOW IN PRISON

Name	Date of Conviction	Sentence	Place of Imprisonment
Mr. Donald McEwan	May 19	9 months	Calton Gaol, Edinburgh
Mr. John Manders	Aug. 11	2 months' h.l.	Pentonville
*Mrs. Sanders	June 17	15 months	Holloway
*Miss Kerr	June 17	12 months	Holloway
*Mr. Robson Paige	July 15	1 month	Pentonville
Miss Virtue	Oct. 1	"	Holloway
Miss Cook	Oct. 1	"	"
Miss Ford	Oct. 1	"	"
Mrs. Bushell	Oct. 1	"	"

\* Re-arrested under the Cat and Mouse Act.

**THE MOVEMENT IN DENMARK****Progress of the Government Bill**

A statement has appeared in the Press to the effect that a telegram from Copenhagen has been received by one of the suffrage societies, announcing that the Danish Government Reform Bill, which was introduced in the Lower House on September 17, and includes votes for women on equal terms with men, has already passed its third reading by the large majority of 101 to 9. Up to the time of going to press no further confirmation of this report has been received.

**From Our Own Correspondent**

Our Special Correspondent writes from Copenhagen:—

"The Bill includes the suffrage for women on exactly the same terms as for men. As it also embodies other amendments of the Constitution on which the parties are divided, it may be some time before the Bill is carried through all its stages in both Houses. But the importance of the Bill to women lies in the fact that when it is passed it will certainly enfranchise women, because that is the one clause of it upon which all the political parties are agreed."

We remind our readers that the Bill has to pass through both Houses in two consecutive Parliaments before becoming law.

**The Municipal Franchise**

The following passage occurs in a telegram from Copenhagen, which appeared in the *Times* of September 17:—

"The experience of municipal elections, in which women have the vote, has shown that women vote exactly as their husbands do, the only effect being to increase the number of votes."

Our Danish correspondent writes with regard to this criticism of the *Times* that, since the Danish women only won the municipal franchise in 1908 (including the right to sit on the councils), there has not been very much time for "experience" to be gained as to the way they have exercised it. At the three municipal elections which have taken place since (two in 1909 and one last spring), the women have co-operated with the existing bodies of men, political and otherwise, who run the municipal elections, and in whose programmes the women were interested before they won the vote. But, she continues, "If it is for an independent woman's party that the *Times* correspondent, like an increasing number of women, is longing, there are already signs of one that should make him feel hopeful. At the last elections, in several constituencies where the women were dissatisfied with the party candidates, they ran their own candidates, and in some cases gained one, or even two seats on the Board."

"As to voting 'exactly as their husbands do,'" continues our Correspondent, "experience distinctly shows that they do not. One good proof of this is that since women obtained equal control with men, many liquor licences have been withdrawn. Naturally, the leadership of the political parties is still in the hands of men, and they are not always so eager to nominate the clever women of their party as the obedient party slaves—a type that is common among men as well as women!"

It is instructive to find that in Denmark, as in England, the women municipal electors are hampered by the lack of the political vote, which would make them more acceptable as candidates to the political parties who really control even local government campaigns.

**LIBERAL WOMEN AND LIBERAL CANDIDATES****The "Anti" to be Boycotted**

A conference of Liberal women workers in the Yorkshire area of Women's Liberal Associations (which are included in the Women's Liberal Federation) was held last Saturday at Castleford. The subject of discussion was "Women's Work in Local Government," but the strong connection between the municipal and the Parliamentary vote was recognised in the resolution which was passed, urging the Government to put both franchises on a simple and equitable basis for men and women. Further, the great urgency of the political enfranchisement of women was indicated in the wording of the resolution, and in the rider to it, pledging the Conference to do all in its power to prevent the adoption by Liberal Associations of Parliamentary candidates who are opposed to woman suffrage.

**The Resolution**

Lady Fisher Smith presided, and Mrs.

Heron Maxwell proposed the following resolution:—

"This Conference, representing thirty Women's Liberal Associations, regrets the continued inaction of the Government on the question of women's suffrage. It considers that the only method worthy of Liberal statesmen and Liberal traditions of dealing with the grave discontent among women is to remove the cause of that discontent, and protests against the militancy of a minority being made the excuse for withholding the vote from every woman. Further, this Conference urges the Government to end the anomalies created under the existing law by putting the franchise, Parliamentary and local, on a simple and equitable basis for both men and women, and in particular calls upon the Government to take immediate steps to enable married women to vote for and be candidates for town and county councils outside London."

Mrs. Maxwell said that the pledge of the Government still held good, and in any future Reform Bill they must give the supporters of woman suffrage the opportunity which was lost by the Speaker's ruling.

**Private Member's Bill "Hopeless"**

It was hopeless, she continued, in the present congested state of legislation, to expect that anything would be got from a Private Member's Bill.

"I believe Mr. Asquith to be absolutely fair-minded," added Mrs. Heron-Maxwell, "that he has done his best to leave everybody free on this question, but some of the more unscrupulous anti-suffragists in the House of Commons have talked about loyalty to the Prime Minister and hinted at resignations from the Cabinet, in order to defeat our efforts."

Miss Bellson, who seconded the resolution, spoke of the action of the militants as something to be counteracted, so that they might show it was the sensible women of the country who wanted the vote. They must see to it that when the next election came woman suffrage was made part of the Liberal programme and was held to be one of the living questions of the day.

**A Test for Liberal Candidates**

Mrs. Lockwood suggested the following valuable addition to the resolution:—

"This Conference pledges itself to do everything in its power to prevent the adoption by Liberal associations of Parliamentary candidates who are opposed to women's suffrage, and to put forward every effort and influence for the return of Liberal suffragists to the next Parliament."

The resolution, as amended, was adopted, and it was decided to send a copy of it to the Prime Minister.

**THE HOUSING PROBLEM**

In an article on the "Housing Problem," the *Medical World* (September 18) quotes a statement by "a competent authority" to the effect that "no less than 200,000 deaths every year in this country are due to overcrowding and insanitary dwellings." It goes on to say:—

"The tuberculosis problem, the physical deterioration of the race in large towns, the infant mortality problem, the prevention of immorality and destitution, are inseparably connected with the housing question, and cannot be adequately dealt with so long as this remains unsolved."

The same paper, in another article, quotes a speaker at the Scottish Sanitary Congress at Glasgow on September 12 as having said that "dwellers in Glasgow slums had degenerated spiritually, morally, and physically as a result of their environment. The whole tendency of their lives was downward, and their children were barred from developing into healthy and moral human beings."

**"We only want Common Sense!"**

The *Daily Herald*, commenting on the statement quoted in the above journal, says:—

"This is one of those facts which should hurriedly call the Cabinet together from their country houses and yachting trips and shooting parties. Just imagine the state of mind of statesmen who deliberately allow a public scandal of that kind to continue. There is no deep thought necessary to find a solution. The remedy is perfectly simple: Build houses. We do not want diplomacy or cleverness in our ruling circles. We only want common sense."

Quite true. But, as the *Daily Herald* no doubt agrees, we shall not get common sense in our rulers, or see our housing problem solved, until these gentlemen are the servants of woman voters as well as of men voters.

**Chapter 7****Some Folks Use**

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**COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS****LIGHT SENTENCES****Assault on Wife**

The *Birkenhead News* (September 27) reports case of man charged at the Boro' Police Courts with assaulting his wife on September 21, when, angry with her for staying in bed through not being well, he struck her in the ribs and threw some water over her. As he had a good character the Bench did not fine him, and counselled him to be considerate to his wife when she was ill. Sentence: *Bound over for 6 months, and 10s. costs.*

**Bound Over**

The *Pioneer* (September 26) reports case of man charged at Woolwich Police Court with assaulting his wife. Sentence: *Bound over to keep the peace.*

**For Breaking a Boy's Arm**

The *Yorkshire Observer Budget* (September 27) reports case of a man charged at the Bradford City Police Court with assaulting his ten-year-old son, breaking his arm and blacking his eye. The Stipendiary said the defendant was not "entitled" to assault his boy so severely as to break his arm. Sentence: *21 days' hard labour.*

**MATERNITY BENEFIT SQUANDERED**

At St. Helen's last Monday a bricklayer was convicted of having neglected to make proper provision for the care of his wife during childbirth. He was paid £1 by the approved society, of which he gave his wife 2s., and the following day he was found by the midwife lying drunk on the bed. It was admitted that the only money he had to get drunk with was the maternity benefit, and the magistrates decided that they must mark their sense of the gravity of the prosecution by sending the prisoner to gaol for—*14 days' hard labour.* (The case was reported in the *Daily News* and *Daily Citizen* last Tuesday.)

Is it not irony that Mrs. Harvey should have been given a sentence of *two months' imprisonment*, not in the first division, for refusing to pay her Insurance tax as a protest against the political disability, which leads to the inferior status of women?

**THE CHILDREN'S MILK**

The Pure Milk Bill is one of those pieces of legislation that get scant attention from politicians who are not dependent on the votes of women, and it was shelved again last session. Yet there are cases of milk adulteration almost every day which show how necessary it is to strengthen legislation in this direction. Only last week, on September 25, a milkman was summoned at Tottenham Police Court for selling milk adulterated by one part in 70,000 with formic aldehyde. (See *Daily Citizen*, September 26.) It was said in Court to be a *dangerous poison and one that caused the person who took it to waste.* It was a forbidden preservative, and even one part in 100,000 was dangerous.

For this very grave offence, which might be fraught with disastrous consequences to infants and young children, the offender was fined £5 and costs.

**HEAVY SENTENCES****Assault on Husband**

The *Scotsman* (September 23) reports case of a woman charged at Glasgow Sheriff Court with cutting her husband in the neck with a razor. An agent on her behalf said she was only 18, had been married about a year, and had been subjected by him to "systematic tyranny." Sentence: *60 days' imprisonment.*

**Eight Months**

The *Scotsman* (September 23) reports case of a Paisley woman charged at Glasgow Sheriff Court with three attempts to obtain separate sums of two, five, and ten shillings on false pretences, two of which were successful. The police described her as a well-known impostor. Sentence: *8 months' imprisonment.*

**For Stealing**

The *Sheffield Weekly News* (September 27) reports case of a woman charged with procuring charitable contributions by false pretences. Alderman Senior said prisoner was a very bad woman to have done this sort of thing. Sentence: *6 months' hard labour.*

**VOTELESS—BECAUSE THEY CAN FIGHT**

Women are tired of being told that they are not entitled to a vote because they cannot fight. Yet a recent decision was given in the Revision Courts which, if persisted in, will disfranchise large numbers of officers, non-commissioned officers, and men in barracks. About 150 of these were struck off the register in Portobello Barracks, Dublin, last Monday, on the ground that they had not sufficient control over the occupation of rooms, and their solicitor gave notice of appeal, stating that the decision might affect every barracks in the country.

But what becomes of the argument that men have votes because they can fight?

**MRS. HARVEY RELEASED**

Mrs. Harvey was released from Holloway Gaol last Tuesday morning, and was taken to her home at Bromley in a very weak condition, her health having suffered severely from her imprisonment, which she underwent without political rights, and from the refusal of the Home Secretary to allow her to see a homeopathic doctor. Great indignation was felt at Bromley on this account, and some residents paid the fine imposed upon Mrs. Harvey in respect of her gardener's licence, and so secured her release at the end of one month's imprisonment. She had thus served that half of her sentence which was imposed for the Insurance Tax resistance.

Several indignation meetings were held last week to protest against Mrs. Harvey's imprisonment, the largest of which were held in the Caxton Hall, last Friday, and in Hyde Park, last Sunday, organised by the Women's Freedom League and the Tax Resistance League respectively. At both, resolutions were carried strongly protesting against the action of the Government.

**NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE**

8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge  
President: Mrs. Cecil Chapman

The Hyde Park meetings continue to be very successful. But fresh speakers are urgently needed. Who will volunteer to "chair" at these Sunday morning meetings?

**Hastings.**—Mrs. Merivale Mayer and Mrs. Darent Harrison spoke at two excellent meetings organised by the Hastings and St. Leonards branch of the N.C.S. last week.

For several weeks past we have been holding a campaign in Whitechapel, as readers of this column are aware. On Saturday afternoon last, a very delightful "At Home" was held, Miss Raynesford Jackson being the hostess. The enthusiasm and friendliness displayed by these Whitechapel women and girls is very encouraging. On Sunday morning, several came all the way to Hyde Park in order to be present at our meeting! Only those who are familiar with the lives of workers in the East End can appreciate the extent of this sacrifice. We can show a like enthusiasm for the cause by being present in our full strength at the

**MASS MEETING ON TOWER HILL**  
(Station: Mark Lane, District Railway),  
on

Saturday, October 4, 3.30 p.m.

The speakers include Miss Janette Steer, Actresses' Franchise League; Mrs. Nevinson, Women Writers' Suffrage League; Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Tax Resistance League; Mr. Pethick Lawrence, Mr. John Scurr, Mrs. Merivale Mayer, and Miss McGowan. We make a last and special appeal to all members and friends to come and support us at this meeting.

**Christmas Bazaar.**—If this is to be a success on the extensive scale planned, every member must do her best to make it so. There is now no time to be lost. The scheme of decoration, Oriental in character, is in the hands of Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, who is also responsible for the Eastern stall. Will those who are in charge of the various stalls—Toys, Baskets, Clothing, Bric-a-Brac, &c.—pass on to others any article received which is unsuitable for their own stall?

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

Sunday, October 5.—Hyde Park, noon.

Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Miss Raynesford Jackson.

Tuesday, October 7.—143a, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. "Facing the Facts." Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Hostess: Miss H. E. Sheppard. 3 p.m.

**COMING EVENTS**

The Actresses' Franchise League will give an "At Home" in the Princes' Hall, Hotel Cecil, to-day (Friday) at 3 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Dr. Cobb, Miss Margaret Morris, and Rev. Mr. Tupper Wilkes (California). The League announces another "At Home" on October 10, at 53, Sloane Gardens, at 3 p.m. Hostess, Miss Janette Steer; lecturer, Mr. Pethick Lawrence.

A Demonstration will be held at the Kensington Town Hall to-night (Friday), by the Oxford University Branch of the Men's Political Union at 8 p.m. The speakers will include Miss Georgina Brackenbury, Mr. H. W. Nevinson, Mr. P. E. Hobhouse, and Mr. Gerald Gould.

A Mass Meeting will be held by the New Constitutional Society, supported by other Societies, on Tower Hill, on Saturday next, October 4, at 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss Janette Steer, Mr. John Scurr, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. W. Nevinson, and Mrs. Merivale Mayer.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mr. H. D. Harben will speak in the Middlesbrough Town Hall on October 7, at 7.45 p.m., under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League. Tickets: 2s., 1s., and 6d. Free seats.

The Women's Freedom League will hold meetings at the Caxton Hall on October 6 at 8 p.m., and October 8 at 3.30 p.m.

The M.P.U. announce a Demonstration at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, on October 8, at 8 p.m. Chair: Mr. H. W. Nevinson; speakers: Mr. George Lansbury, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, Mr. H. D. Harben, Mr. John Scurr, and Mr. C. W. Webber.

The VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship and the Church League will hold a meeting at the Town Hall, Ilford, on October 14, at 8 p.m. Chairman: The Right Rev. Bishop Powell. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Rev. F. M. Green. Tickets: 2s. to 3d., obtainable from Miss Hawley, 51, Grosvenor Road, Ilford.

The VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship will hold a public meeting at the Kingsway Hall on Thursday, October 16. (For particulars see page 2.)

The Marchers' Qui Vive Corps, having now finished their season at Horsham, are making their next headquarters at Duncton, Petworth, and intend holding indoor meetings during the winter in Sussex.

**A HIGHLAND SUFFRAGIST**

Lady Muir Mackenzie, who has recently become a member of the VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship, sends us the story of a chance encounter in the Highlands with a staunch Suffragist. Finding no one to meet her at the station, where she arrived on her way to stay at a country house, she set out to walk to her destination, and was overtaken by an old Scotsman driving a rough Highland pony in a little cart. He offered her a lift, and in the course of conversation said he was very "severe" (meaning Radical) in his politics, and that he could not see the poor should not, equally with the rich, have a say in the Government of the country, or why women should not vote as well as men. He had heard the "Suffrage ladies" speak at the last election, "and right well they pleaded their cause."

Meeting an Anti-Suffragist lady among the guests at the house where she had come to stay, Lady Muir Mackenzie was struck by the contrast between the conversation of the old man in the pony cart and that of the woman, who soon showed that she knew nothing of realities or of what working women have to endure. "Our cause will not suffer very severely," she concludes, "as long as we can count on the support of Scotsmen who belong to the real, the work-peoples' world."

Another VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellow also tells us that she found an enthusiastic supporter of the Suffrage movement, this time an Irishman, who was driving her in an outside car in the West of Ireland during her summer holiday. She and her companion had been talking about all manner of different subjects, and had not mentioned the suffrage, when the driver suddenly turned to them, and, speaking of the state of the country, said that in his opinion what was really needed was Votes for Women.

**NEW ZEALAND'S SUPPORT**

At a public meeting convened by the Christchurch (New Zealand) Branch of the Fabian Society, the following resolution was enthusiastically carried:

"That this meeting of Christchurch citizens extend its sympathy to the British suffragettes in their struggle for political freedom. We in New Zealand have received inestimable benefit through the extension of the franchise to women, and we are confident that only as the sexes have equal political freedom can the race progress. We regret exceedingly the suffering and injustice inflicted on our sisters in the Old Land, and trust that ere long the vote will be obtained by them, and the humiliating conflict terminated."

**THE MEN OF THE NORTH**

The Northern Men's Federation are preparing a rod in pickle for the Liberal party at the next General Election, and especially for those members of Parliament who, in the words of one of the Baillies who came up on the Scotsmen's delegation last July, "treated the whole matter with levity and laughed at the Cat and Mouse Act." At Glasgow the campaign is forging ahead brilliantly, and efforts are being concentrated on the constituency of Mr. McCallum Scott, the "Liberal" who is Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee who oppose Woman Suffrage.

At a meeting held in the Livingston Hall, South Edinburgh, last Friday, Mrs. Arncliffe Seannett appealed for Liberals who would promise to vote against the Government if need be at the General Election; and five men at once responded to her demand, while two Labour men offered to vote for either Party if it put woman suffrage on its programme.

At Berwick-on-Tweed, the Northern Men are in communication with their member, Sir Edward Grey.

The activities of the League will culminate in a Convention to be held in London early in December.

**MEN SUFFRAGIST PRISONERS AS SPEAKERS**

A feature of the Demonstration to be held by the Men's Political Union at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, on October 8, at 8 p.m., is the fact that three of the speakers, Mr. George Lansbury, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and Mr. C. W. Webber, have suffered imprisonment in the cause of Woman Suffrage. It is hoped that other men who are also Suffragist ex-prisoners will be present on the platform; and all these, irrespective of membership of the M.P.U., are asked to send their names to the Secretary, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, giving the dates of their imprisonment and the terms of their sentence, in order that their presence on the platform may be ensured.

**AUTUMN HATS**

The French Hat Shop, 322-324, Regent Street, has now on view a large stock of autumn and winter hats, many of which have come direct from Paris. Their 12s. 6d. hats and toques are of particularly good value for the money, and are of varying styles, thus making an appeal to women of widely differing tastes. In size they are mostly small or medium. The French Hat Shop makes rather a point of black and white millinery, and has some very attractive models of this kind on view.

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Flora Anna.

Flora Anna.

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## WOMAN SUFFRAGE MEETINGS.

**MRS. WALTER GALICHAN** will lecture on "Woman in her Relationship to Man" at CAXTON HALL, Monday evening, October 6. The chair will be taken by Miss A. A. Smith at 8 p.m. Discussion invited. Admission by ticket, 6d. and 1s. from W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and at doors on night of lecture.

**THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE** holds Public Meetings at CAXTON HALL every Wednesday afternoon. Speakers: October 8, Mrs. E. M. Moore ("A Woman's Utopia") and Miss Nina Boyle. The Chair will be taken by Mrs. Huntsman at 3.30. Admission Free.

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**Artistes' Suffrage League,** 239, King's Road, S.W.

**Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association,** O.O. International Women's Franchise Club, 3, Grafton Street, W.

**Cathedral Women's Suffrage Society,** 55, Banners Street, Oxford Street, W.

**Church League for Women's Suffrage**, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.

**Civil Service Suffrage Society,** 19, Sotheby Road, Highbury.

**Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association,** 45, Dover Street, W.

**Federated Council of Women's Suffrage Societies,** 14, St. James' Street, S.W.

**Forward Gymnastic Suffrage Union,** 33, Wandsworth Bridge Road.

**Free Church League for Women's Suffrage,** 2, Holbury View, Upper Clapton.

**Friends' League for Women's Suffrage**, Mill Field, Street, Somers.

**Gymnastic Teachers' Suffrage Society,** 2, York Place, Oxford Road, Manchester.

**International Woman Suffrage Alliance,** 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

**International Women's Franchise Club,** 9, Grafton Street, W.

**Irish League for Women Suffrage**, The Union of the Four Provinces Club, 16, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.

**Irishwomen's Franchise League,** Adelphi Concert Building, Gt. Brunswick St., Dublin.

**Irishwoman's Reform League,** 28, South Anne Street, Dublin.

**Irishwomen's Suffrage and Local Government Association,** 163, Rathgar Road, Dublin.

**Irishwoman's Suffrage Federation,** 23, South Anne Street, Dublin.

**Irishwoman's Suffrage Society,** 27, Donegall Place, Belfast.

**Jewish League for Woman Suffrage,** 32, Hyde Park Gardens, W.

**League of Justice,** 2, South Molton Street, W.

**London Graduates' Union for Woman Suffrage,** Chester Gate, Ealing.

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